

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

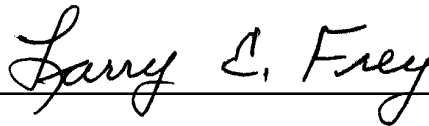
Farm Service Agency
Oregon State Office
7620 S.W. Mohawk Street
Tualatin, OR 97062-8121

For: County Offices

**Primary Nesting and Broodrearing Season and Managed Haying and Grazing Dates
for FY2003**

Approved By: State Executive Director

LEF:LML:ll



1 Overview

A Background

National Notice CRP-439 set guidelines for establishing dates for both the primary nesting and broodrearing period and for managed haying and grazing under an approved haying or grazing plan. The State FSA Committee was given the authority to set the dates for both after consultation with the State Technical Committee. These dates have been set for FY2003.

B Purpose

Prior to signup 26, haying and grazing were not allowed on CRP land except under the provisions of emergency haying and grazing. In many cases, this led to the buildup of thatch on the land which was not conducive to maintaining a viable grass stand or to promoting the most usable wildlife habitat. Managed haying and grazing are necessary to revitalize the stand and will provide better habitat for all species of wildlife. To encourage CRP participants to use this management tool, it is necessary to make the forage available during the time that it is growing and palatable to livestock. At the same time, the needs of ground nesting birds must be taken into consideration and the disturbance be minimized as much as possible during the primary nesting and broodrearing period. The purpose of this notice is to establish the primary nesting or broodrearing period for Oregon. This notice also sets the managed haying and grazing dates for FY2003 for assessing payment reductions. County Offices should publicize the managed haying or grazing options at the local level as quickly as possible to allow producer to take advantage of the opportunity for FY2003.

C Primary Nesting and/or Broodrearing Period

In Oregon for FY 2003, the primary nesting and broodrearing period will begin on April 1 for haying and April 15 for grazing. It will end on June 1 for grazing and July 1 for haying. No activity will be allowed during this period except for approved maintenance activities as per 2-CRP (Rev. 4) par. 238A.

Disposal:

October 1, 2004

Distribution:

Oregon COFs, DDs, & COR

OR Notice CRP-65

D Managed Haying/Grazing Dates for Assessing Payment Reductions

A 25 percent payment reduction applies to both managed haying and grazing. Payment reduction shall be assessed based on the year the haying or grazing activity begins.

For FY2003 in Oregon, managed grazing shall not begin prior to June 1. Managed haying shall not begin prior to July 1. All hay must be removed from the CRP land by Oct. 1 and all livestock must be removed by Nov. 15. Landowners who use these dates will be assessed a payment reduction based on FY2003 even though livestock may be on the CRP land until Nov. 15. The same land may only be hayed or grazed 1 out of every 3 years. Therefore, land grazed or hayed in FY 2003 may not be hayed or grazed again until FY 2006 (see example in National Notice CRP-439). The Oregon State FSA Committee encourages producers to use a rotational pattern of haying and grazing so 2/3 of the CRP acreage would be available in a mosaic pattern for wildlife cover in any given year.

2 Contact

Direct questions concerning this notice may be addressed to Lois Loop, Program Specialist.